



**Business Meeting - Joint Meeting with Presidents' Council
Approved on 3/2/18 at a Special Sessions Meeting**

Date: 02/26/2018

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: PS 261, 314 Pacific Street, Library (Room 214)

Business Meeting Agenda (as publicly posted)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Welcome - CEC 15 President Camille Casaretti
3. Approval of Minutes from February 6
4. Superintendent Report - Anita Skop
5. 80 Flatbush Update
6. Budget Review - CEC 15 Treasurer Charles Star
7. District Concerns and Action Plans - Presidents' Council President Donald Norwood
 - a. School Safety
 - b. Equity of Process
 - c. Sharing Information and Resources Across the District
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Call to Order 6:31 p.m.

1. Roll Call - Scott Powell

Present:

Camille Casaretti, President
Scott Powell, Co-Vice President
Charles Star, Treasurer
Mark Bisard
Lili Velez
Nicole Brier
Antonia Ferraro

Late:

Yanfeng Zhang
Neal Zephyrin
Elena Romero

Absent:

Kathy Park Price, Co-Vice President - Excused



Guests:

Anita Skop, D15 Superintendent

Francisca Andino, Administrative Assistant

Donald Norwood, Presidents' Council President

2. Welcome - CEC 15 President Camille Casaretti

- Introduced Barbara Herrera, CEC 15 Student Member
- Next Business Meeting will be on March 8. It will provide health and safety updates.
- March Calendar Meeting will be on March 20. It will be a joint meeting with CEC 13 on state testing. A total of 12 people were asked to speak at this meeting only 6 people have responded. Most of the people who have responded want to talk about opting out of the test, looking to find more people to speak on both sides. There will be a moderator at this meeting.
- CEC 15 received a Letter of Intent from Brooklyn Rise Charter School. Getting a document together to respond. Spoke to someone at the Office of Charter Schools regarding the letter of intent. Was told the letter was thoughtful and well written. They will probably get space in the D20 section of Sunset Park. She reached out to D20 regarding this.
- Javier Salamanca from Make Space for Quality Schools presented a proposal regarding new schools coming to Sunset Park in a previous meeting. The council has drafted a letter of support.

The letter of support drafted for Make Space for Quality Schools was reviewed by 7 council members present. All 7 members voted in favor of the letter.

3. Approval of Minutes from February 6

- One change was suggested on page 2, bullet 3. Change "We're trying hard to get schools to come to our district" to "We're trying hard to get school space in our district."

All 8 council members present voted in favor of the suggested change and approval of minutes.

4. Superintendent Report - Anita Skop

- She received an email from CEC 15 Co-Vice President Kathy Park Price, asking her to explain the diversity committee. District 15 is working on a number of initiatives and some have to do with equity. All schools will be asked to put a committee together that addresses equity. The committees should have about 10 to 12 people in it. All member will be trained in cultural sensitivity. Training might be done with Border Crossers or Human Root. Border Crossers is amazing but it's expensive.



- All diversity committees will be SLT Sub-Committees. If a school already has a diversity committee through their PTA they can keep it going but they will still need a diversity committee through the SLT. Principals will put a list of names together by mid-March.
- The best practice to start a Diversity Committee is to ask who wants to be on the committee. Send announcements to school community. It will not be by invitation only. An SLT member should start off the committee.
- One member of the committee will report committee updates and what's happening at their school.
- Diversity Committees will meet once a month. Probably in the evening to allow teachers to attend.
- The Superintendent's office gets a budget of \$25,000 a year, but will be able to train committee members and teachers thanks to the Title I Integration Grant she and her team received.
- The goal of this is to address the issues at schools that need to be addressed, see how students interact with each other. This is about empathy. Ms. Skop wants all kids to hang out together, go to birthday parties together.

5. 80 Flatbush Avenue Update - CEC 15 President Camille Casaretti

- PS 38 will be the most affected by this construction.
- The CB2 Education Chair has made it very clear that she will vote against it.
- CEC 15 put out a resolution on this proposal back in July 2017.
- CEC 15 wants more seats in our district. Asking between 750 to 1000 seats. The maximum number of seats they are offering is 350-400.
- Ms. Casaretti will talk about the 80 Flatbush Avenue Proposed Project during the Community Board 2 meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

CEC 15 President Camille Casaretti took this opportunity to ask everyone in attendance to introduce themselves and say what school they represent.

6. Budget Review - CEC 15 Treasurer Charles Star

- \$2500 was put towards the P-Card. The balance on the P-Card is about \$1700 now.
- Some money was put under meeting expenses because there was no P-Card at the time, but now that there is a P-Card CEC 15 might consider putting that money towards the P-Card.

7. District Concerns and Action Plans - Presidents' Council President Donald Norwood

- School surveys are out, please make sure they get filled out.
- Attended the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) workshop on Feb. 9. This is the same concept as No Child Left Behind.
- Some of the main points of the workshop is to help parents identify what is happening inside their children's schools.



- Pushing on translations is another important point. Spanish is not the only other language. Schools, PTAs should make an effort to have papers translated. Having something come home in your language speaks volume.
- Three important issues in D15: School safety, equity of process and sharing information.
- DOE is putting a protocol in place for the national student walkout on March 14.
- DOE is working on getting a 2nd or 3rd safety officer in schools.
- Sharing of resources is not always financial. Some schools are not able to raise the kind of money that other schools raise. Maybe schools can share resources or fundraise together. Some schools in D15 could use the help.
- It will be great to have schools come together. If a school has an event, it will be a great idea to reserve some seats for members of another school. CEC 15 will be hosting a Districtwide Science Fair on May 10. That will be a great way to bring schools together.
- Make sure all PTAs are functioning and translate their bylaws.
- Money is important but parent engagement is what it's about. All parents are the PTA, if a parent wants something done remind them that they are part of the PTA.
- PTA [June Transfer of Records](#) is very important. Check DOE website for guidelines.
- CEC 15 Student Council Member Barbara Herrera shared that some parents are not able to attend many PTA meetings and school events. With the technology we have today, is there a way to use this technology to help parents participate? Facebook live? Maybe recording the whole meeting and posting it on the school's website? PS 118 Co-President, believes it's up to each PTA to decide this. Each PTA has their own bylaws and they have their own way of doing things.
- PTA Executive Board members should introduce themselves to parents. Make parents feel like they belong.

8. New Business

PS 118 PTA Co-President, had a grievance to discuss with CEC 15 regarding the handling of an anonymous letter that was sent to a set of stakeholders which included the council regarding an incident that occurred at their school. The second PS 118 PTA Co-President, shared his sentiments. The asked the board to examine the incident.

They asked that CEC 15 examine the council's roles, responsibilities, activities and the matter above.

Donald Norwood, Presidents' Council President, would look into it and review the chancellor's regulations.

CEC 15 went into Executive Session on how to address their communication protocol. Executive Session began at 8:40 p.m. Francisca Andino, CEC 15 Administrative Assistant, was invited to stay.



Members Present:

Camille Casaretti
Scott Powell
Mark Bisard
Nicole Brier
Lili Velez
Antonia Ferraro
Yanfeng Zhang
Charles Star

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting - Charles Star

2nd motion to adjourn meeting - Lili Velez

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:30 p.m.

-Minutes submitted by Francisca Andino, Administrative Assistant

Next CEC 15 Meetings:

Thurs. Mar 8 at 6:30 p.m. - Board of Education, 131 Livingston Street, Room 508A
Health & Safety Update

Tues. Mar 20 at 6:30 p.m. - PS 133, 610 Baltic Street
Joint Meeting on State Testing with CEC 13